

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, 12-19, 21 and 23-27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 7 and 17 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Sorrell at the telephone interviews held on June 28-29, 2004 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interviews as warranting favorable Action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The June 10, 2004 Office Action rejects claims 1, 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kumpf (U.S. Patent No. 6,581,098); claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kumpf in view of Beach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,772); claims 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kumpf in view of Leiman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,469,796); claims 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17-19, 21, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,020,973) in view of Beach; claims 16 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine in view of Beach, and further in view of Leiman; claims 14 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine in view of Beach, and further in view of Kurachi (U.S. Patent No. 6,181,436); and claims 15 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine in view of Beach, and further in view of Mori (U.S. Patent No. 6,089,765). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The Examiner agreed during the telephone interviews that claims 7 and 17 distinguish over the applied references.

The Examiner also agreed during the telephone interviews that Kumpf does not disclose or suggest an image input and output control apparatus that includes at least a storage section that stores the data received by one of the first transmitting and receiving section and the second transmitting and receiving section, as recited in independent claim 1.

Instead, Kumpf discloses a network peripheral server adapted to enable a plurality of clients in a network to access a plurality of functions supported by a multifunction peripheral connected to the network (Abstract).

Accordingly, Kumpf does not disclose each and every feature of independent claim 1. As such, independent claim 1, and dependent claims 2-6, are patentable over Kumpf. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Beach teaches a wireless local area network that carries a mixed traffic of voice and data communications (Abstract).

Leiman teaches a method for open systems printing including routing printing jobs automatically from different types of source computers to different types of printers (Abstract).

Accordingly, neither Beach nor Leiman cure deficiencies in Kumpf in disclosing or rendering obvious each and every feature of dependent claims 2, 3 and 5, including the limitations of independent claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2, 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

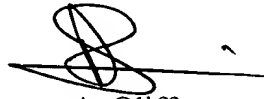
Mori teaches a printing system in which print data created by an application program and transferred to a printer is stored and managed in a print data storage device (Abstract).

Claims 8, 10, 12-15, 18-19, 21 and 23-27 depend from claims 7 and 17 and therefore also distinguish over any combination of Levine, Beach, Kurachi and Mori. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-8, 10, 12-19, 21 and 23-27 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Tarik M. Nabi
Registration No. 55,478

JAO:TMN/tje

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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